

186th Air Refueling Wing
Mississippi Air National Guard
6225 M Street
Meridian, MS 39307-7112

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MERIDIAN, MS
PERMIT NO. 917



Jet Blast

186th Air Refueling Wing

VOLUME IX: NUMBER I

JANUARY 2004

Commander's Comments

The first militia was established in the colonies on 13 December 1636, just over 367 years ago and almost 140 years before the Declaration of Independence. We also celebrated the 100th anniversary of powered flight by Orville and Wilbur Wright on 17 December.

The Wright brothers had observed how birds use morphing wings and applied those concepts to help control rolling motions. The concept is now called active flexible wings (AFW), with morphing wings sweeping back and changing shape to reduce drag, using jet thrusts instead of a vertical tail, wing tips splitting for better control while preparing for landing, using sensors to monitor pressure variations over the entire wing, etc. The AFW concept is being tested in new designs.

Today's military, economic and political environments demand that the 186 ARW also be an active flexible wing, in a different but very real sense. The ANG slogan of "Ready, Reliable, Relevant-Now... and in the Future!" must be taken seriously by every member and unit. We have had about 60% of the Mission Support Group volunteer to deploy for two weeks (in some cases longer) a terrific offer. We will work diligently to accommodate as many as possible. This, the aviation package and other unit deployments will demonstrate a high level of unit activity during this ongoing time of world-wide need for our national security.

Flexibility is another critical aspect of our future. Evolving missions, personnel manning documents, training and other requirements make our attitude and ability to adjust to change one of the most important factors in how well our future goes. Getting along with and supporting each other is crucial. We must "morph" our wing in order to reduce drag, similar to birds and aircraft.

Thank you to everyone for you participation. Please look for ways to enhance your military experience and education. An attitude of "Service Before Self" will keep this the very fine Wing that it is.



Col Erik Hearon
Wing Commander

2004 Drill Dates

06-07 Dec 2003
10-11 Jan 2004
07-08 Feb 2004
06-07 Mar 2004
07-08 Aug 2004
03-04 Apr 2004
01-02 May 2004
05-06 Jun 2004
26-27 Jun 2004
07-08 Aug 2004
11-12 Sep 2004

Upcoming Drill Dates

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
							1	2	3	4	5	6	<u>7</u>		1	2	3	4	5	<u>6</u>
4	5	6	7	8	9	<u>10</u>	<u>8</u>	9	10	11	12	13	14	<u>7</u>	8	9	10	11	12	13
<u>11</u>	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	29	20	21	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29							28	29	30	31			

Have some news?

Please notify Billy Chickaway at Base Extension 9280 if YOU have any newsworthy happenings in your section. Retirements ... promotions ... weekend deployments ... new personnel ... special projects ... etc., that are of interest to members of the unit. These are the types of events that we want to publicize in the *Jet Blast* and Local News Media. On public affairs articles please be sure to include the author's name.

This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U. S. Military Services. Contents of the *Jet Blast* are not necessarily the official views of the U. S. government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

This newspaper is published monthly one week prior to each UTA.

The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 186th Air Refueling Wing, Mississippi Air National Guard, Key Field ANG Base, 6225 M. Street, Meridian, MS 39307-7112.

MSGT JIMMIE R. MIXON, Editor

COL. ERIK HEARON, Commander

- 1
Commander's Comments
- 2
Promotions
Spouse Orientation Flight
Info. Sys. Security Policy
- 3
Email Formats
Government Travel Card
- 4
Paydates
"The Soldier"
- 5
Local Media Members
Take to the Sky
- 6
Bulletin Board
- 7
Commissary Access for Reserve
- 8
Becoming a Marrow Donor
- 9
Donor Interview
- 10
Guidance for Service Members
Leaving Active Duty
- 11
Chaplain's Column
Thank You Note
- 12
Terrorism
- 13
Santa Visits Key Field
NCO Association News
- 14
Air Force One Source
Holiday Parades
- 15
Unit Members Receive Awards
- 16
Calendar

PROMOTIONS

ENLISTED PROMOTIONS

CMSgt

BERWYN D. RIGDON 186 MXS

SMSgt

RANDAL L. HEARN 186 MDS
RICHARD G. STAMPLEY 186 AMS
LEONARD L. HOFFER 186 LRS

TSgt

JONATHAN A. SKINNER 186 AMS
TIMOTHY B. GARRISON 153 ARS
LISA B. CLAYTON 186 HQ
SHERI B. PEARSON 186 MSF
VICTOR L. FIELDS 186 MXS

SSgt

JEREMIAH W. MIKELL 186 HQ
ANDREA M. WHEATON 186 SVF
FELISHA M. TEMPLE 186 SVF
STEVEN E. BROWN 186 MXS

SRA

REGINALD ROBINSON 186 LS
TONY L. DUNN 186 CES
WINFRED I MUNN III 248 ATC

OFFICER PROMOTIONS

1st Lt

BRADLEY T. ANTHONY 153 ARS

Spouse Orientation Flight

The Family Program Office is very excited to announce a Spouse Orientation Flight Sunday, 7 March 2004. The flight is open to the first 20 spouses who sign up and who have never been on a spouse orientation flight before. Also prior to the flight you will have the opportunity to be “mobilized”. Yes, mobilized. Since September 11 2001, you have heard the term, and many of you have been out here to see your loved one off. Well, we are turning the tables and it will now be your loved one who will see you off! You will get to see first hand what happens when a military member gets their orders to deploy. I’m not going to give away all our secrets or surprises but I can guarantee it to be an experience you will not forget. If interested please call the Family Program Office at 484-9623 by 7 February 2004.

Reminder from Security Forces

All personnel need to check your vehicle stickers

Any stickers with an “03” will expire 31 Dec 03

To update vehicle stickers
Report to SFS, Bldg 502
With a copy of

Current proof of insurance & tag number



UNIT MEMBERS RECEIVE AWARDS DURING DEC. DRILL



Members of the 238th Air Support Operations Squadron SRA Quinton Sellers, TSgt Scott Self, TSgt Johnny McGuire, MSgt James Tierney, Maj Scott Snively, and Maj Billy Murphy (left to right)

Several hundred unit members were recognized for their service at an awards ceremony during December drill. Maj Gen Harold Cross, Assistant Adjutant General for Air and Commander of the Mississippi Air National Guard was in Meridian to present some of the awards.

Six members of the 238th Air Support Operations Squadron personally received their awards on stage from Maj Gen Cross. Maj Billy Murphy and Maj Scott Snively received the Bronze Star for Meritorious service while deployed to Iraq. SRA Quinton Sellers, TSgt Scott Self, TSgt Johnny McGuire, MSgt James Tierney received the Army Commendation Medal for their support to the Army during the recent Iraq campaign.

Maj Gen Cross and Col Hearon addressed the unit during the program. Col Hearon thanked the unit members as well as their families and employers for their service and dedication during the last couple of years while Maj Gen Cross reminded everyone of the importance of their efforts to world peace.

The ceremony marked the first unit awards program in some time and many members were awarded for their contributions to the war on terror since 11 September 2001. Because of the large number of awards, most were presented in smaller groups at the squadron level throughout the day.



AIR FORCE ONE SOURCE

On December 1, 2003, the Air Force announced the Air Force One Source Airman and Family Resource Program as an expansion of services available through Family Program Offices. This innovative benefit is designed to give our families assistance with life issues.

The Family Program Office is the Wing's referral source for family matters and concerns. Resources in our community, state, and nation must be available to our families at any time of day. Now, in addition to the Wing.

Family Program, you can use Air Force One Source as a referral source. This program offers

practical solutions, information, advice and support to all our members and the significant people in their lives. This service offers real people at the end of the phone line as well as a web site all day...every day.

The Family Program Office takes advantage of ALL resource agencies available and will ensure that Air Force One Source is included. Online at www.airforceonesource.com Enter the User ID AirForce (All one word) with the Password Ready. If calling by phone: From the US: 800-707-5784 Internationally: 800-707-57844 International collect: 484-530-5913

HOLIDAY PARADES



Members of the 186 ARW Honor Guard participated in the City of Meridian's Holiday Parade (top left) and the East Mississippi State Hospital Holiday Parade. Many other unit members volunteered their time to help with these and other parades around the area.

E-MAIL FORMATS

It is not appropriate to use a Privacy Act warning as part of your e-mail signature. Overuse means no one pays attention to it. If you are sending PA information, you should then and only then put a

statement concerning this. For more information concerning proper e-mail formats check out the Official Email Formats on the 186th home web page.

GOVERNMENT TRAVEL CARD

The Base has implemented a new procedure for use of the Government Travel Card. All travel cards have been deactivated with the exception of those exempt by your Commander or currently on orders. When your orders are prepared the unit orderly room should notify the travel section to activate your card and set the credit limit based on your authorized entitlements. The card will then be deactivated when your orders are complete. This new procedure will be the unit's responsibility upon the appointment and training of the Unit Agency Program Coordinator for the travel card program.

These same factors should be carefully considered should instances of abuse or misuse of a government travel card. Supervisors and Security Managers must consider whether suspension of the individual's access to classified information is appropriate based on the applicable security standards and the specific conduct of the individual. You must maintain a security clearance for military membership.

Questions on the Government Travel Card can be addressed to LTC Jones x-49812 or MSG Gonzalez 4-9559.

The Defense Authorization Act for 2004, signed by President Bush on November 24, 2003 requires credit checks for all cardholders and makes it clear that cards will not be issued to poor credit risks. The Secretary of defense shall evaluate the credit-worthiness of an employee of the Department of Defense or a member of the Armed Forces before issuing a travel card to such an employee or member. The evaluation may include an examination of the individuals credit history and available credit records. The law also states that anyone found not creditworthy will not be issued a card, and it requires the Defense department to develop a new disciplinary policy for those who misuse travel cards.

Financial responsibility and trustworthiness are key components for determining whether a military member or civilian employee is eligible for the issuance of, or continuation of a security clearance.



PAY DATES FOR JANUARY DUTY

The schedule below shows dates you can expect to receive pay for duty performed during January 2004. For example, if you should perform duty on 05 January, you can expect to be paid on 13 January if the form is received in Military Pay NLT 1200 on 05 Jan 2004.

Run Date	Pay Date
05 Jan 2004	13 Jan 2004
07 Jan 2004	15 Jan 2004
11 Jan 2004	20 Jan 2004
14 Jan 2004	23 Jan 2004
16 Jan 2004	28 Jan 2004
20 Jan 2004	30 Jan 2004
23 Jan 2004.....	04 Feb 2004
28 Jan 2004.....	06 Feb 2004

Unit Training Assembly performed on 10– 11 Jan 2004 should pay on 20 Jan 04. Alternate UTA performed on 24 – 25 Jan 2004 should pay on 06 Feb 2004.

Take Note:

Effective 01 Jan 04 Local and TDY mileage reimbursement rates increase from \$.36/mile to \$ 37.5/mile.

THE SOLDIER BY KAYLEIGH JOHNSON

(Kayleigh is 12 years old and her father is TSGT Steven Chad Johnson)

The Soldier all brown and green He looks so very lean He’s off to fight the war He hopes to fight no more.	He looks into his wife’s and children’s eyes Says “I’m doing this for y’all”, He kisses them good-bye one last time “Don’t worry, I’ll be fine”.
Leaving his wife and children behind He’s off to save his country Being brave and standing tall He will be strong after all.	“If God calls me home I’ll be safe with Him forever Waiting for my family Away above in heaven.”
Thinking about day 9/11 He has a job to do On his mission he flies toward He doesn’t care for an award.	He kisses them one last time and smiles, He says, “I love you” and waves good-bye. Our soldier, our Daddy, our Hero, We’ll pray for you Daddy, please come home.
He does his job and prays to God His people will not fail With prayers of family and friends He’ll stay strong till he comes home.	

SANTA VISITS KEY FIELD TO GATHER NAUGHTY/NICE INFO



During a normal UTA the dining hall is filled with military members. However on the afternoon of 6 December 2003, the dining hall was full of laughter and music. The occasion? Santa was coming to Key Field! The Family Readiness Group provided delicious goodies and Chaplain Allen read a story to remind us of the real reason for the season. The children were kept busy with the Toy Walk while we anxiously awaited Santa’s arrival. We were all excited to see Santa arrive on the fire truck with all the lights and sirens going. Even though Rudolph could not attend, Santa gave the children “reindeer food” to sprinkle on their lawns Christmas Eve. Thanks again to the Family Readiness Group for all their hard work and thanks to SMS Rick Davis’ staff



for the pictures with Santa. You can pick up those photos in the Family Program Office. And thanks also to Chaplain Allen for his story and his sweet spirit. The FRG is already busy making plans for next year. Please come and be a part of the Family Readiness Group. We are saving a spot just for you!

NCO ASSOCIATION NEWS

President, MSG Lynn Barlow President #49244

NCO Association membership drive is still underway! Visit the website to find out about the latest issues: www.eangus.org

Victories

Unlimited Commissary privileges & HR 2297 VA Home Loan for Guard and Reserve members is a permanent program.

Scholarships

See your NCO Director for applications. For dependent’s application to be considered it must contain **ALL** required information. All applications must be **POSTMARKED** NLT 27 February 2004.

Upcoming Events

NCO Assn Conference to be held in Jackson, MS 16-18 Apr 04

Please see your NCO Director to pay NCO dues.

NCO Auxiliary Note

If your spouse is interested in becoming a member, please contact:

Mernell Holloway, Senior Director . . 601-776-2040
Billy Barlow, Junior Director 601-656-9521
Variety of Key Field T-shirts, golf shirts and denim shirts available

TERRORISM

Terrorist Pre-Attack Indicators Exist in Every Terrorist Incident

The September 11th terrorist attacks against America forever changed life as we have known it in the United States and around the world. It is more important now than ever for all of us to be able to detect and mitigate possible threats to United States security.

Focusing on the terrorist groups and their activities prior to an attack has established a pattern of activity- actions that typically precede incidents (e.g. evidence of recruitment, training, logistics, intelligence collection, movement of personnel, weapons, finance, propaganda, staging, etc). Coupled with knowledge of group ideology and stated goals, pre-attack indicators provide insight concerning group behavior and plans. They provide a framework to monitor and analyze

group activities and to assess potential threats against U.S. Citizens and facilities.

Specific conditions that may indicate a potential for terrorist activities in your area are, but are not limited to:

- Public demonstrations by support groups.
- Reports of theft or stockpiling weapons or explosives
- Information about new groups forming.
- Reports of groups training
- Appearance of anti-government posters, leaflets, graffiti.

- Speeches advocating violence.
- Persons unknown to you asking questions about the Guard.
- Surveillance
- Attempts to penetrate the base perimeter.
- Unauthorized photography.
- Threat warnings.
- Maps, photos or diagrams found.

Remember these indicators may take place days, month or even years before the actual attack takes place. It's vital that all suspicious activities are reported to Security Forces (Local 4-9722 or DSN

778-9722) or the Wing Anti-Terrorism Officer/NCO (Local 4-9520 or DSN 778-9520). SF or the ATO will in turn notify OSI, Threat Working Group, Force Protection Working Group and the Installation Security

Council. The small insignificant event that goes unreported might be the piece that is needed to complete the larger picture. Incidents do not occur in a vacuum. They are planned, organized and carried out by individuals acting alone or in groups. We all need to be vigilant and realize that just because we have not been a victim of terrorism in this country since 9-11, that the "bad guys" aren't planning another attack.

**"TERROR
Watch for the Signs!"**

LOCAL MEDIA MEMBERS TAKE TO THE SKY

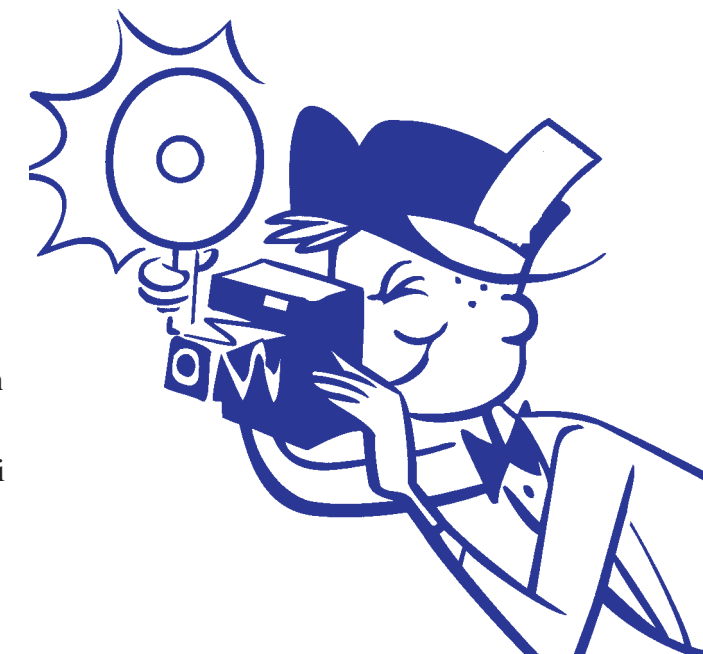


Members of the local media pose for a picture with flight crew members after the 20 November media flight on a KC-135R Tanker.

Several members of the local media including representatives from print, radio, and television media took to the sky on 20 November. The flight was a routine training mission for the 186 ARW and the receiver B-52 bomber from Barksdale AFB but there was nothing routine about the flight for the media. As part of the day's activities media members learned about how the crew prepares for a mission, follows safety procedures and checklists, practices emergency procedures, and briefs the mission, all before arriving at the aircraft.

Once airborne, there was plenty of time for varied questions about everything from "has anyone ever used one of these parachutes" to "how much fuel can a KC-135 off load per minute"? The flight took members on a track high over Arkansas and Missouri and allowed plenty of time for all to get a look at an air-to-air refueling including several contacts with the receiver aircraft. The media flight was a great

opportunity to get the message out about how the 186 ARW contributes to the nation's defense and stands ready to respond to any future taskings. Media members have a new understanding of our mission and great appreciation for the professionalism and dedication of the members of the unit.



BULLETIN

W2's on MYPAY

Military Members can have access to view, save, and print their W2 Tax Statement from MYPAY at <https://mypay.dfas.mil>. The tax statements will be posted on MYPAY during the following period, no earlier than 26 December 2003 and no later than 1 January 2004.



BOARD

MYPAY personnel who have a MYPAY Personal Identification Number (PIN) will only receive an Electronic W2 unless they elect "HARDCOPY W2" on the website. **During the period 1 December 2003 through 31 January 2004 you will not be allowed to change your W2 print election on MYPAY.**

My pay provides a secure method for users to manage their pay account information. Available, around the clock, customers can make changes online. If you do not have access to MYPAY please contact Military Pay at 4-9362.

Military Pay Raise Effective 1 January 2004

The 2004 Defense Authorization Act provides a minimum pay raise of 3.7 percent effective 1 January 2004, but targeted raises for some ranks, up to 6.25 percent, bringing the overall average increase up to 4.1 percent. Those getting more than the minimum include mid-level and senior non-commissioned officers.

Warning

There have been surveys circulated via email asking for government charge card information. The survey may appear to some to be legitimate, but it is not. The bank and the federal government has the information it needs and would never send out a survey such as that described. Be aware of this scam and do not provide travel charge card information to anyone. If they are being contacted by the bank by the phone, ask for the individual's name and department at BoA. The cardholder should then call the 1-800 number on the back of their travel charge card and ask for the individual. If they can reach the individual through this means, then the individual at the other end of the phone is a legitimate BoA employee.

Transitional Health Care Benefits

All members of the Reserve components who have served on active duty for more than 30 days in support of a contingency operation are authorized Transitional Assistance Management Program (TAMP) benefits for 180 days. This begins on the date in which the member is separated from active duty.

The 180 day period of TAMP eligibility applies to all covered Reserve component members who separate from active duty on or after November 6, 2003. This authorization is valid through December 31, 2004, unless further extended by law. To remain in Tricare Prime, members need to re-enroll at the nearest Military Treatment Facility upon completion of their active duty tour.

Currently, members will be coded for 120 days in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) system. After January 6, 2004, the additional 60 days will be added to show the total 180 days everyone will be entitled to receive. Tricare Brochures, or information on Transitional Health Care Benefits can be obtained from LTC Donald Draper at the 186th Medical Squadron. DSN 778-9342

CHAPLAIN'S COLUMN

As we approach a new year it is good to evaluate how we have done in the previous year and to ask ourselves how we can make the new year even better.

The best advice I know is found in Holy Scripture. In Joshua 1:8 we read one of the wisest admonitions in the Bible. It was given to the children of Israel but it is still applicable to Gentiles. In it Joshua is giving instructions to the Israelites as they prepared to enter the Promised Land. He said, "This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success."

I think most of us want to prosper and have good success. The key to that is to know what the Bible teaches and then to put it into practice; to do as James 1:22 says and "Be doers of the Word and not hearers only." I sincerely believe that to the extent

that we as a nation and as the individuals who make up our country will seek to put into practice what the Bible teaches that we will be a blessed and free people.

1 Timothy 2:1-2 says, "Therefore, I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior." With that truth in mind let us commit to praying for President Bush, for COL Hearon and for others who are in authority. Also let us pray for the safety of our men and women stationed in Iraq and Afghanistan and pray that wicked forces will be defeated in those lands and that peace and freedom may become the norm and not the exception in those places.

By: Chaplain Allen

THANK YOU

To the 186th Air Refueling Wing
We cannot say thank you enough for what you all have done for our family! We truly appreciate the generous contribution that you have given to help us with our expenses during this particular time. God truly blessed us through you when we didn't know what to do! We thank each one of you sincerely. May God bless you greatly in return for your generosity! Special thanks for your prayers!

TSGT James & Zandra Conner

GUIDANCE FOR SERVICE MEMBERS LEAVING ACTIVE DUTY

MMSO can only authorize dental care for those eligible Active Duty Service Members (ADSMs) who are on Active Duty (AD) orders for more than 30 days with an additional provision for those members having an LOD or NOE. ADSMs who leave active duty due to Retirement, EAOS/ Separation, Demobilization, or Deactivation are no longer eligible for care effective the date of separation.

There are two potential areas where service members may have considerable problems with dental care when leaving active duty:

If a Tricare Prime Remote-eligible Active Duty Service Member (ADSM) has received a Preauthorization from MMSO and has any of this treatment completed after their release from Active Duty (AD), MMSO can no longer provide any funding for this care.

If an ADSM receives a referral from a military dental clinic for care by a civilian dentist, the care must be completed while the ADSM is eligible for care. Any care provided after release from AD will not be paid for by MMSO.

ADSMs that leave AD have several options for dental care. The following information is provided as a courtesy with guidance provided from the program providing that specific area of care. Any further information or questions must be directed to the areas listed below.

1. Transitional Assistance Management Program (TAMP) – Dental benefits for TAMP-eligible personnel are limited to space available care in the

DTF. Current Federal law states that TAMP has been extended to 180 days. For questions about TAMP, contact your Command or Unit healthcare benefits advisor.


TAMP is a Title 10 benefit and is best defined in the TriCare Manual in CHAPTER 11, SECTION 10.1 TRICARE POLICY MANUAL 6010.47-M, MARCH 15, 2002 TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (TAMP); J Dental Coverage

2. Veteran’s Benefits. Eligible members leaving AD have the option of receiving dental care via the VA. Contact the VA at 1-877-222-8387 for information on accessing the VA system. Complete details for the VA process are located at this website: <http://www.va.gov/publ/direc/health/manual/010119.html>

3. Reserve Dental Plan: Information on enrollment can be obtained by calling United Concordia at **1-888-622-2256** to request an enrollment form or by accessing the UCCI website at <http://www.ucci.com>

4. Retiree Dental Plan: Eligible retirees and their family members can find answers to their questions about the Retiree Dental Program as well as enroll using Delta’s dedicated TRDP web site at www.trdp.org or by calling the toll-free number at **1-866-567-1658**.


COMMISSARY ACCESS FOR RESERVE MEMBERS



PERSONNEL AND
READINESS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

NOV 24 2003



MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
UNDER SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
ASSISTANT SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
DIRECTOR, OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION
INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
ASSISTANTS TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
DIRECTOR, ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT
DIRECTOR, PROGRAM ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION
DIRECTOR, NET ASSESSMENT
DIRECTOR, FORCE TRANSFORMATION
DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES
DIRECTORS OF THE DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES


SUBJECT: Commissary Access for Reserve Members

In accordance with Section 651 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2004, effective immediately the following members and their dependents will be permitted unlimited access to commissary stores:

- Members of the Ready Reserve (which includes members of the Selected Reserve, Individual Ready Reserve, and Inactive National Guard) and members of the Retired Reserve who possess a Uniformed Services Identification Card.
- Former members eligible for retired pay at age 60 but who have not yet attained the age of 60 and who possess a Department of Defense Civilian Identification Card.
- Dependents of the members described above who have a Uniformed Services Identification Card or who have a distinct identification card used as an authorization card for benefits and privileges administered by the Uniformed Services.

DD Form 2529, "DoD Reserve Component Commissary Privilege Card," is cancelled.

This policy change will be incorporated in the next change or revision of Department of Defense Directive 1330.17, "Military Commissaries," March 13, 1987.



Charles S. Abell
Principal Deputy

BECOMING A MARROW DONOR

Donor Registration

- 1. **You learn about marrow donation.** The C.W. Bill Young / DoD Marrow Donor Center will have representatives standing by to inform you about becoming a volunteer donor and the donation process. Brochures and a video explaining marrow donation for volunteers will be available.
- 2. **You sign a consent form** (DoD form DD2576) to be listed on the Department of Defense and National Marrow Donor Program Registry (NMDP) and provide additional information about yourself including a brief medical questionnaire.
- 3. **A small blood sample**, about 2 tablespoons, is taken from your arm.
- 4. **You are registered as a potential volunteer marrow donor.** Your marrow type is determined and entered into the DoD and NMDP Registry. Your blood is tested at the Navy HLA (human leukocyte antigen) testing laboratory to determine your marrow matching type. The results of the HLA typing, along with some of the information from the questionnaire you completed, are added to NMDP's main computer. The information is coded so you can only be identified by C.W. Bill Young/ DoD Marrow Donor Center personnel.

Matching With A Patient

- 5. **You become a preliminary match.** Once registered in the NMDP computer, marrow transplant medical teams throughout the U.S. and the world can search the NMDP file to determine if your HLA type matches the HLA type of a patient who needs a transplant.
- 6. **If your HLA type matches the patient seeking a transplant, you are contacted.** A donor coordinator from the C.W. Bill Young DoD Marrow Donor Center will inform you of your status. If you wish to continue, you sign an additional consent form. If you are a member of the military, your Commanding Officer also signs the consent to continue, so he or she is aware that there is a relatively high chance (about 1 in 10) that you will donate marrow.
- 7. **A compatible marrow match is identified.** A second sample of your blood is obtained and sent to the transplant center for extensive confirmatory HLA typing. If your precise HLA-type is compatible with the patient, you will be given detailed information about the marrow donation process and your options as a volunteer donor.

Donating Marrow

- 8. **You decide whether to donate.** After being fully informed about the donor experience, you make the decision – with the support of family and friends – to become a marrow donor. If you wish to proceed, you will be brought to a hospital, usually Georgetown University Hospital in Washington, D.C., for a physical exam and additional health testing. Upon completion of your physical examination, a donation date is scheduled. If you are active duty military, command approval is also obtained.
- 9. **A small amount of your marrow is collected.** Marrow is extracted from the back of your pelvic bone using a special needle and syringe in an NMDP approved collection center, usually Georgetown University Hospital in Washington, D.C. You are under anesthesia during this simple surgical procedure.
- 10. **You recover quickly from the procedure.** Typically, the donor stays overnight in the hospital. After being discharged, you can resume normal work activities within a few days. You will likely experience some soreness for about one week – each individual experiences a different level of discomfort. Your marrow naturally replenishes itself. Georgetown University Hospital marrow collection team and C.W. Bill Young / DoD Marrow Donor Center staff will stay in contact with you until you have completely recovered. You will be periodically informed of the patient's progress.

For more information call
TSgt Catherine D. Scarborough 186 MDS
601-484-9807

MARROW DONOR REGISTRATION DRIVE

186 ARW Medical Squadron
Saturday, 10 January 2004 from 0900-1500 hrs
INTERVIEW WITH A MARROW DONOR

As many of you know, in October the 186 ARW kicked off a marrow donor drive here at the base. The drive allows unit members and their spouses to register here at the clinic. Since October over 260 members have registered as potential volunteer marrow donors and our goal is 600 registrants. Even though the likelihood of becoming a match and actually donating marrow is low, these volunteers represent the possibility of giving life to another human being who would otherwise have no hope. At least two members of the unit have actually experienced the entire process from registering to becoming a match and actually donating. One of these members is TSgt Steven Stubbs. TSgt Stubbs is a video production journeyman in the visual information section of the Communications Flight. He and his wife have been long time volunteers in their church and the community. This is what TSgt Stubbs had to say about the experience of donating marrow.

Q. How did you hear about the marrow donor program and where did you register?
A. In 1997 I was working at the Regional Counterdrug Training Academy at NAS Meridian and heard that NAS Meridian was participating in the C.W. Bill Young/DOD Marrow Donor program. I decided to register with the NAS clinic. I went in and gave a small blood sample and completed a short questionnaire.
Q. What happened next?
A. About two years later I received a registered letter informing me that I was a possible match. The letter instructed me to call and advise if I was willing to continue in the process. I called my personal contact and was instructed to go back to the NAS clinic for

additional tests. I completed the tests and approximately eight months later I donated.
Q. Where did you donate?
A. I made two trips to Georgetown Hospital in Washington DC. The first was for a screening similar to a physical. The next was to donate. All expenses were paid and I was allowed to bring an escort whose expenses were also paid. I spent a total of three nights in Georgetown, one the first trip, and two for the actual procedure.
Q. Was the procedure painful?
A. No, not really. I had a dull backache for a few days but no problems or pain since.
Q. Have you talked with the recipient?
A. The policy allows only letters passed through the donations center with no names for the first year. After one year, if both parties agree, you are allowed to talk with some degree of mediation. I have not had much contact with my recipient.
Q. How do you feel about donating now that it has been a few years?

A. I have always felt that it is a great honor to help out a fellow human being. I would do it again and I hope that someone would do it for my family or me if we were in need. I encourage everyone to register and hope that others will get the opportunity to donate.

